

Background and Campaign

The Result

What Now?

Conclusions

# Brexit: What happened? What now?

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Research funded by ESRC *UK in a Changing Europe* Initiative

# About Me

- Associate Professor at LSE (since 2015)
- Postdoc at Aarhus University (2012–2015)
- PhD from Northwestern University (2012)

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## 1 Background and Campaign

## 2 The Result

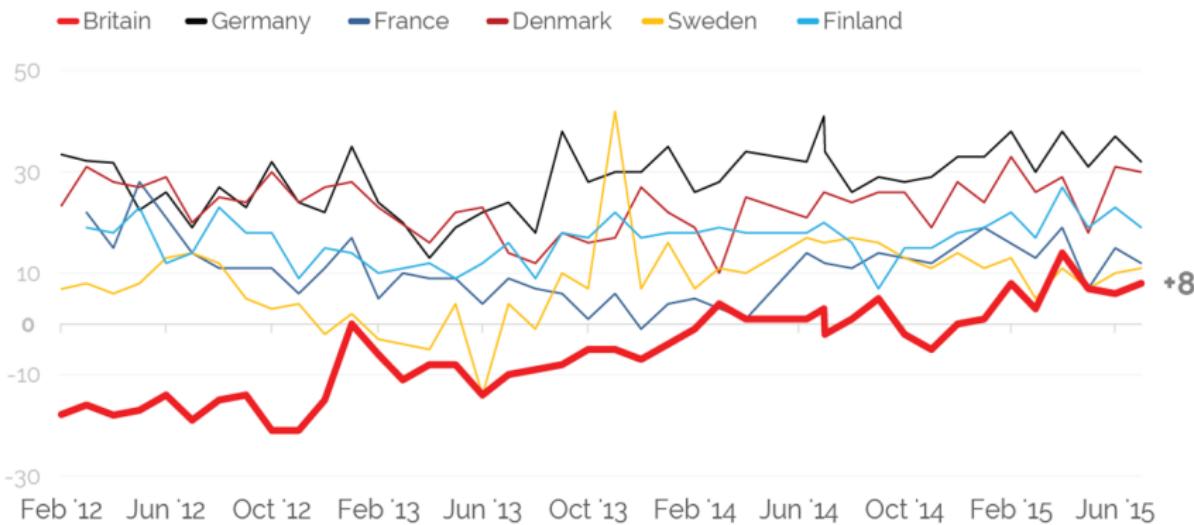
## 3 What Now?

## 1 Background and Campaign

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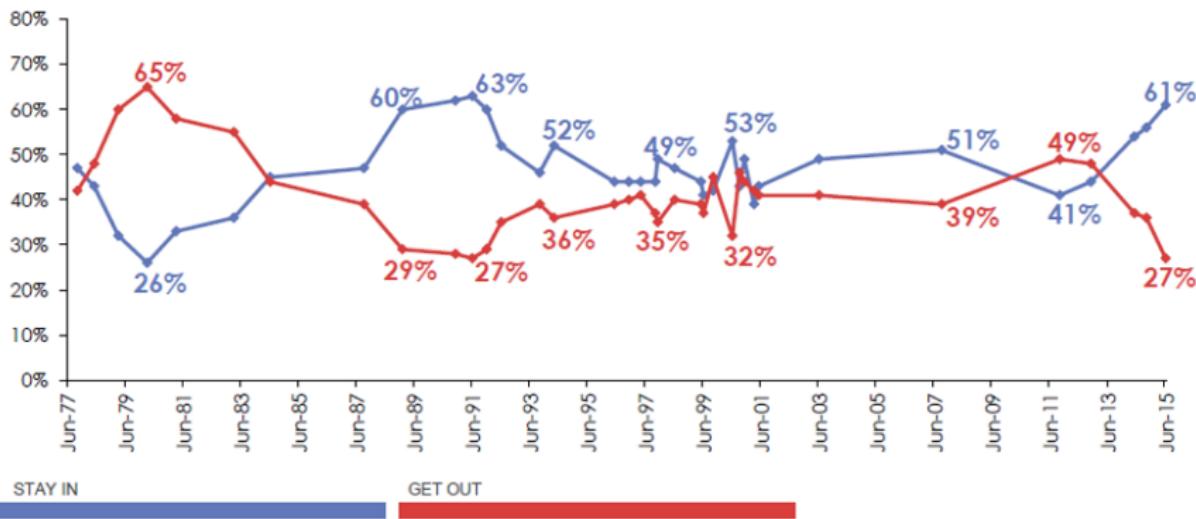
# "If there was a referendum on your country's membership of the EU, how would you vote?"



Source: YouGov, July 2015

IF THERE WERE A REFERENDUM NOW ON WHETHER BRITAIN SHOULD STAY IN OR GET OUT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, HOW WOULD YOU VOTE?

15



Source: Ipsos MORI

SE-Oxford Commission on  
**State Fragility,  
Growth and  
Development**



Oxford Commission on  
**State Fragility,  
Growth and  
Development**



A close-up portrait of Nigel Farage, leader of the UK Independence Party (UKIP). He is a middle-aged man with light brown hair, wearing a dark suit jacket, a light pink shirt, and a patterned blue and red tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression.

## **UKIP's PLEDGE TO BRITAIN:**

- Say NO to the EU
- Control our borders
- Extra £3 billion for the NHS
- Cut foreign aid spending
- No tax on the minimum wage

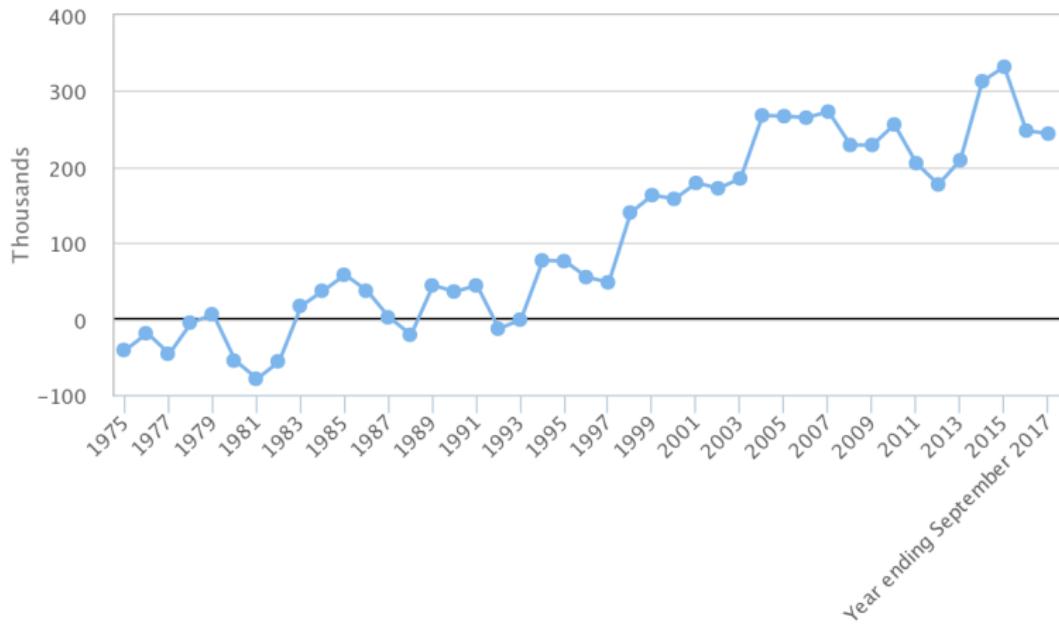


**ukip.org**



## Net migration to the UK 1975 to the year ending September 2017

Office for National Statistics, Long Term international Migration by Citizenship Data





HM Government

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# **Why the Government believes that voting to remain in the European Union is the best decision for the UK.**

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*The EU referendum, Thursday, 23rd June 2016.*

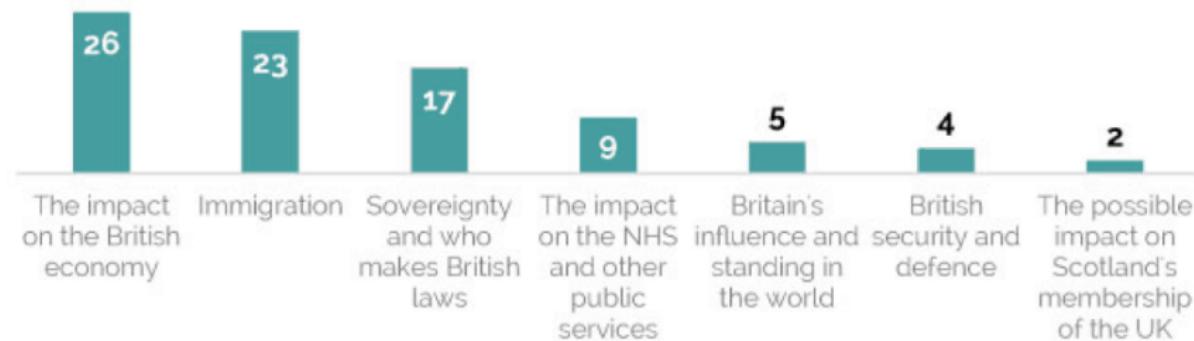
We send the EU £350 million

let's fund our NHS instead



## Most important issues in Brexit debate

Which of the following issues is most important to you in deciding how to vote in the referendum? %



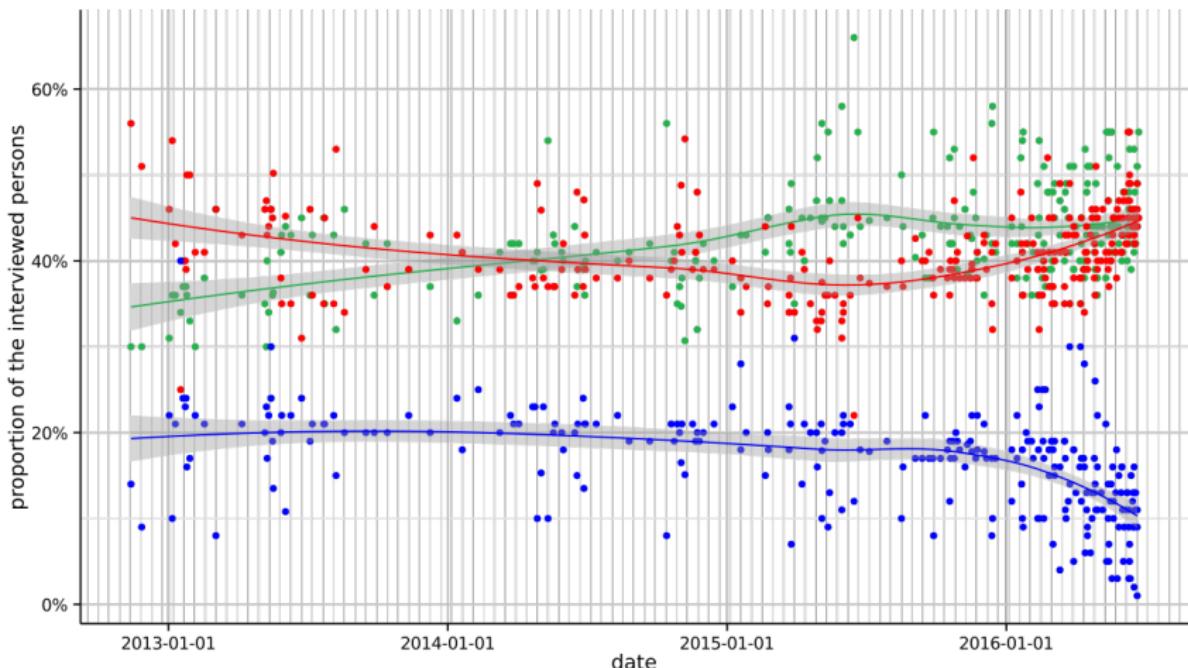
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## United Kingdom European Union membership referendum Opinion polling

● Remain ● Leave ● Undecided



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# **Referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union**

**Vote only once** by putting a cross  in the box next to your choice

Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union?

**Remain a member of the European Union**

**Leave the European Union**

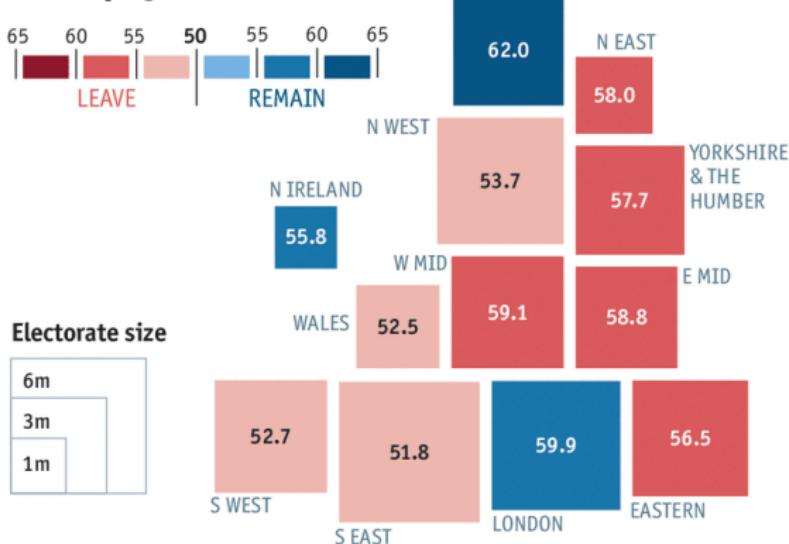
## EU referendum results

As of 08:00, June 24th 2016

Based on 382 results reported



### Results by region, %



Source: BBC

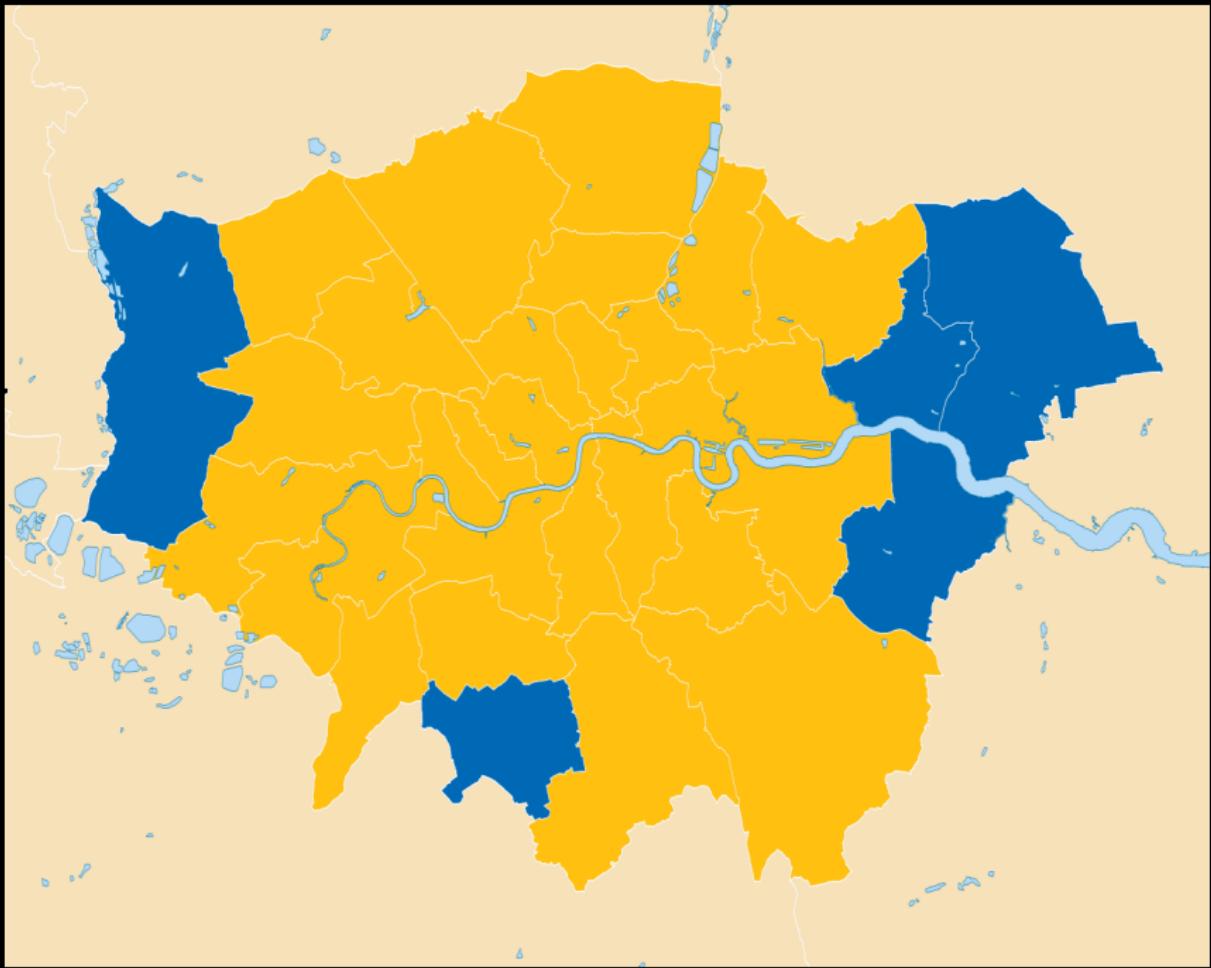
Economist.com



Glyn Lowe Photography





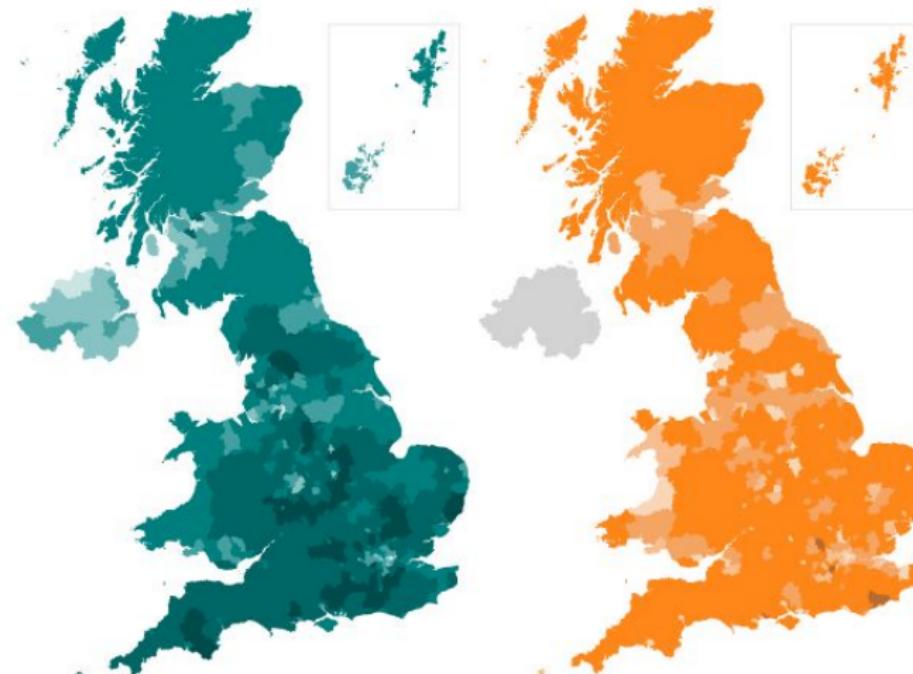


## Turnout was low in areas with more young people

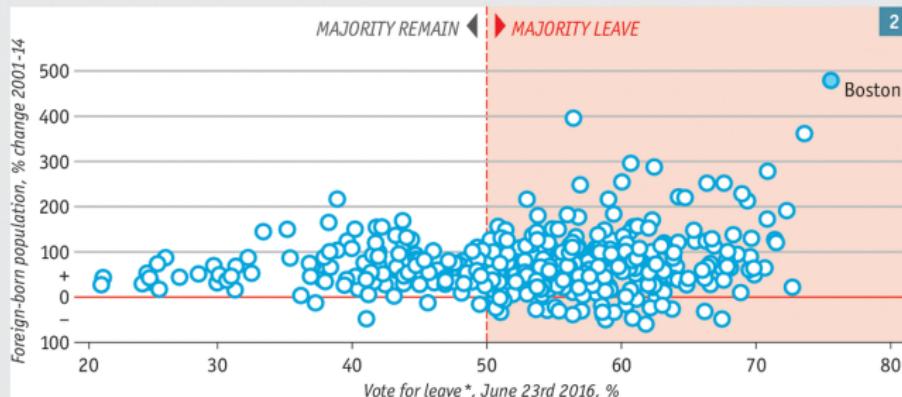
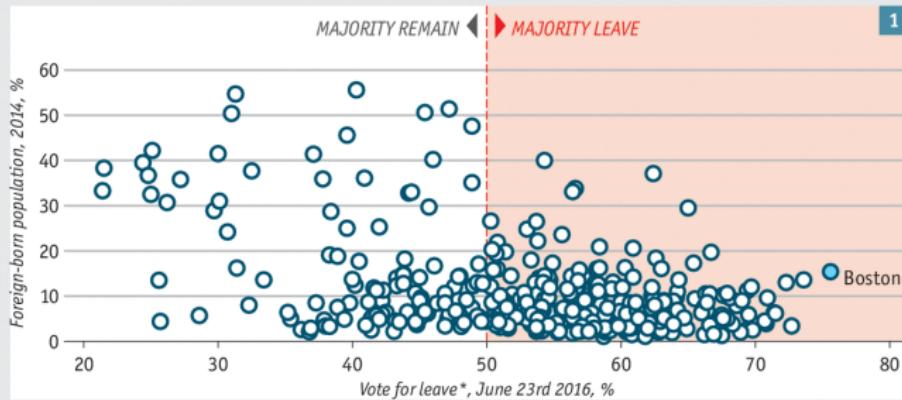
Turnout %



18-24-year-olds, % of population



## Poles apart

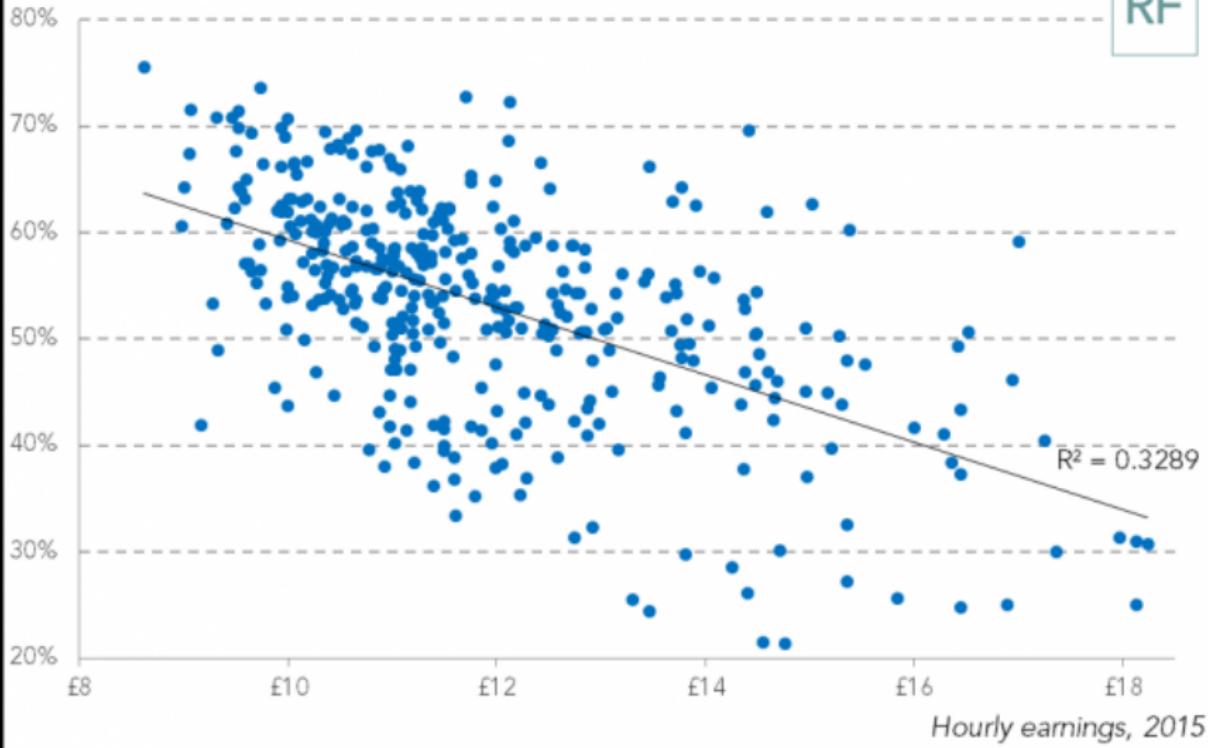


Sources: Electoral Commission; ONS

\*By local authority area

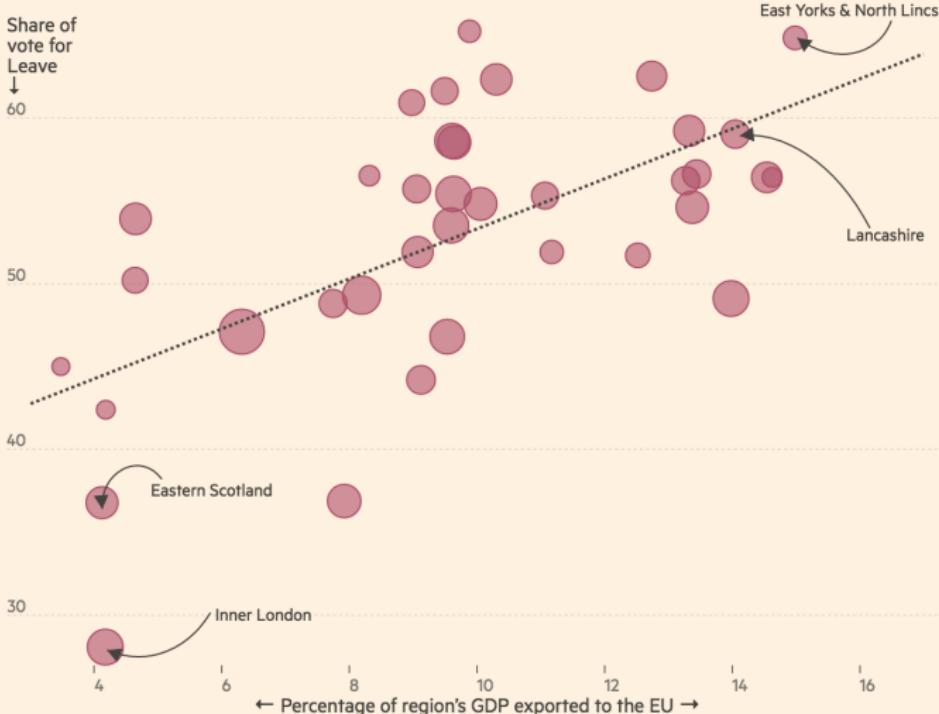
Share of EU referendum vote for leave (local authorities in Great Britain)

RF



## Leave vote was strongest in regions most economically dependent on EU

The regions with the highest share of votes for Leave also tend to be the most economically intertwined with the EU. A higher percentage of East Yorkshire & Northern Lincolnshire's economic output is sold to other EU countries than is the case for any other UK region, yet 65 per cent of its electorate voted to Leave



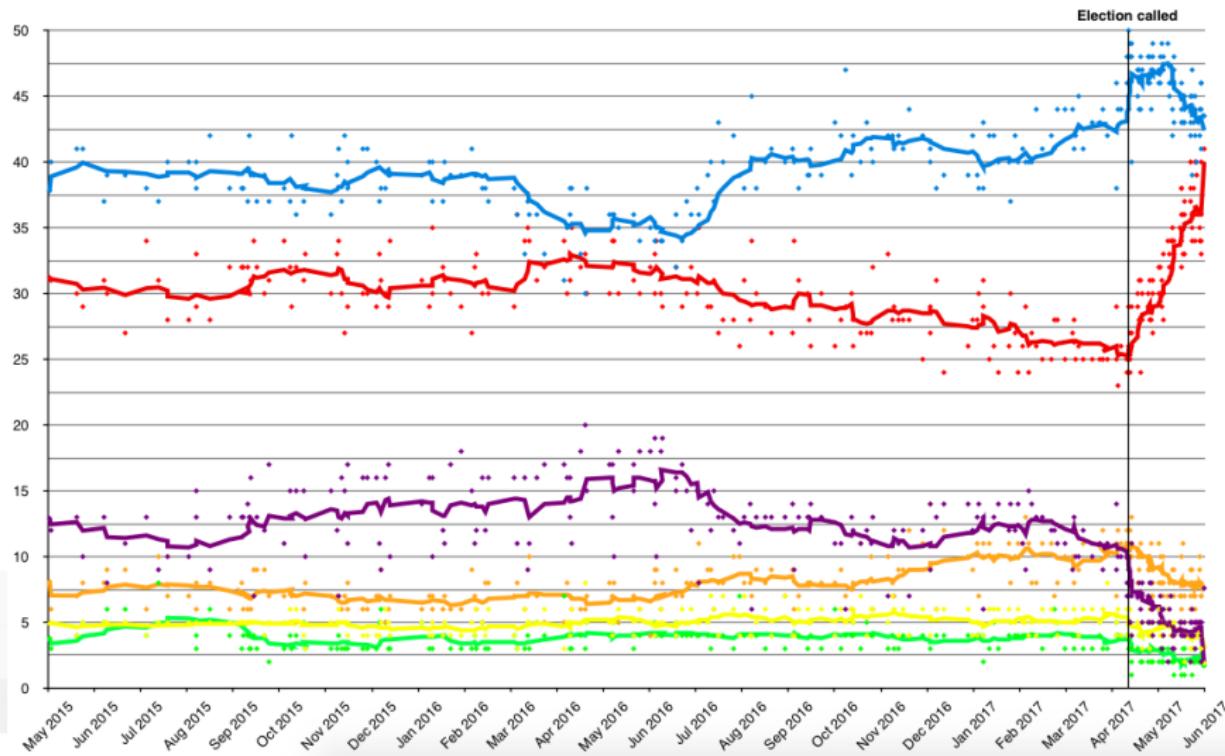
Referendum results: Press Association

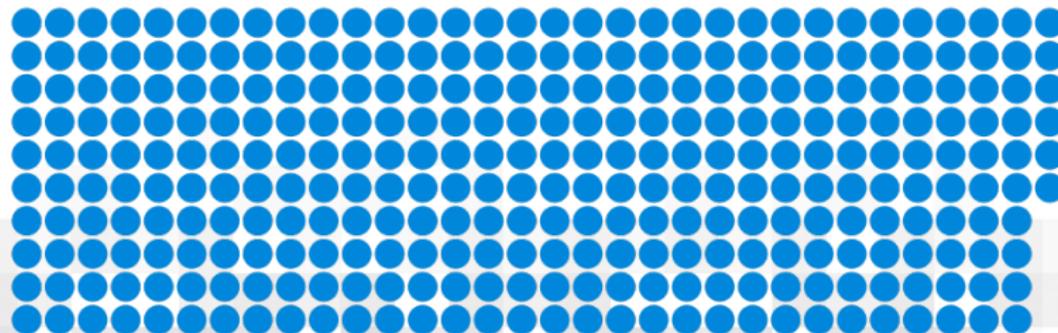
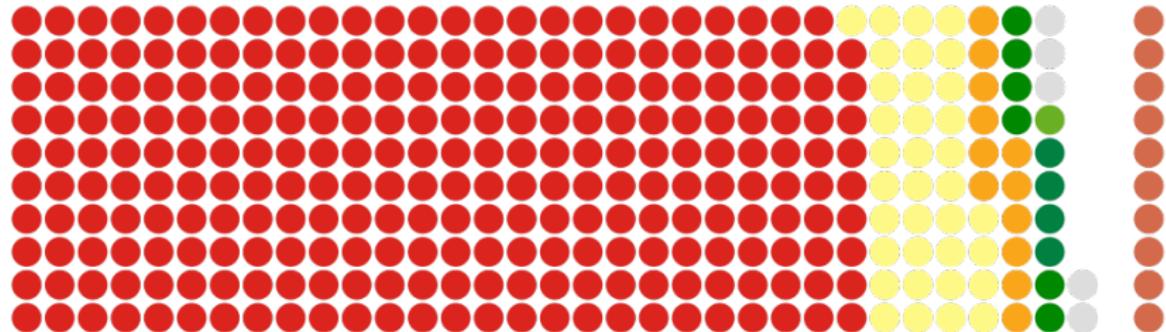
EU trade research: John Springford, Philip McCann, Bart Los and Mark Thissen

Graphic by John Burn-Murdoch / @jburnmurdoch







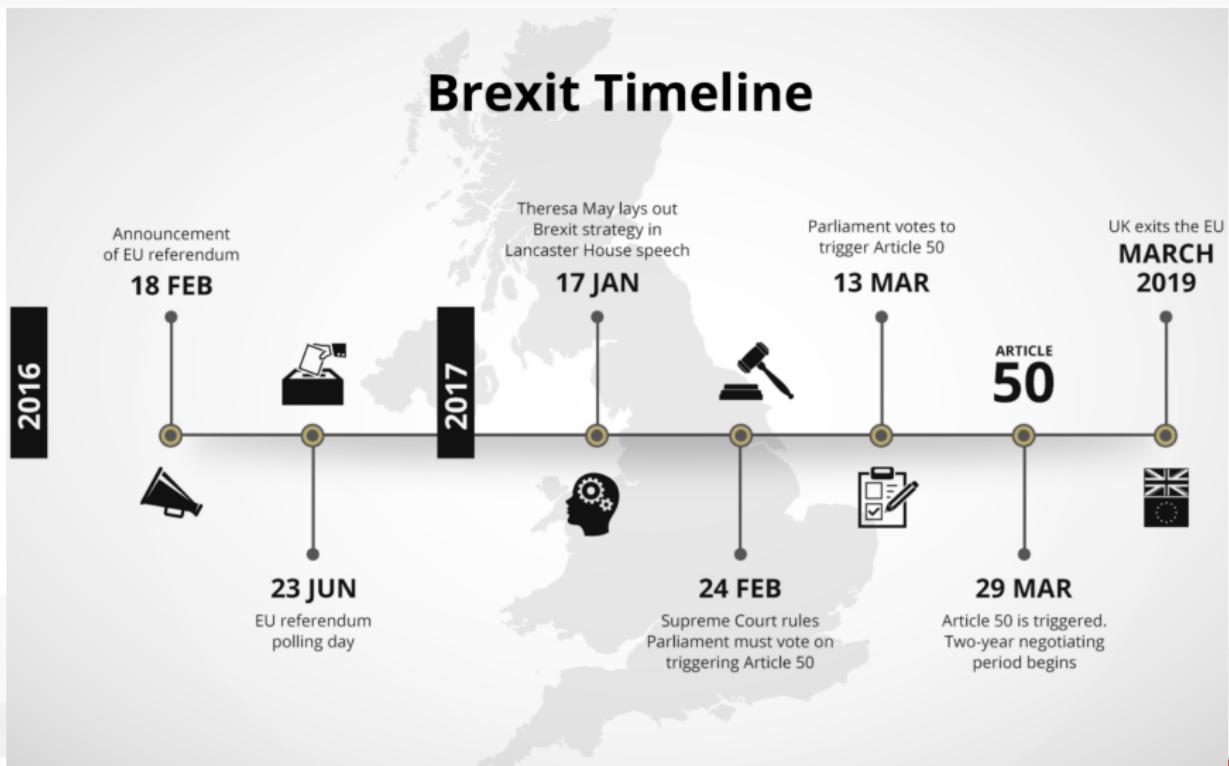


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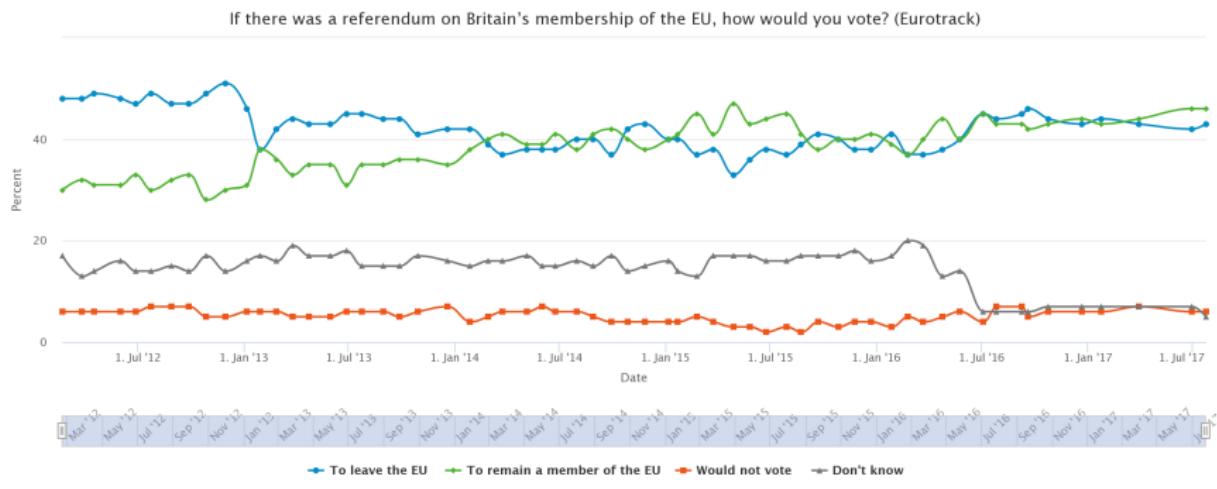
# Brexit Timeline



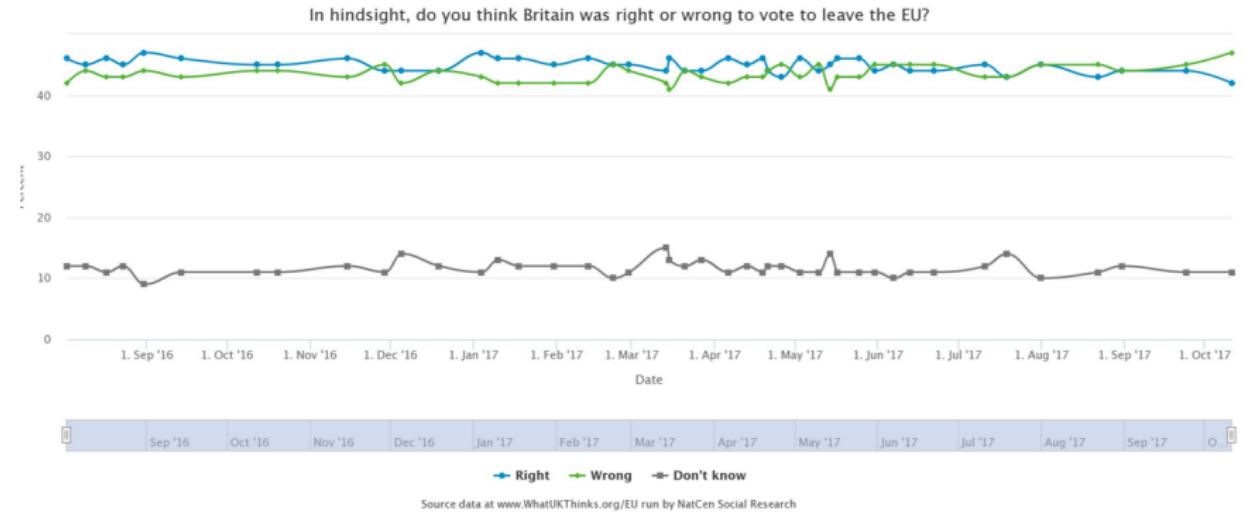
# Summarising Trends in One Word

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# Stability!

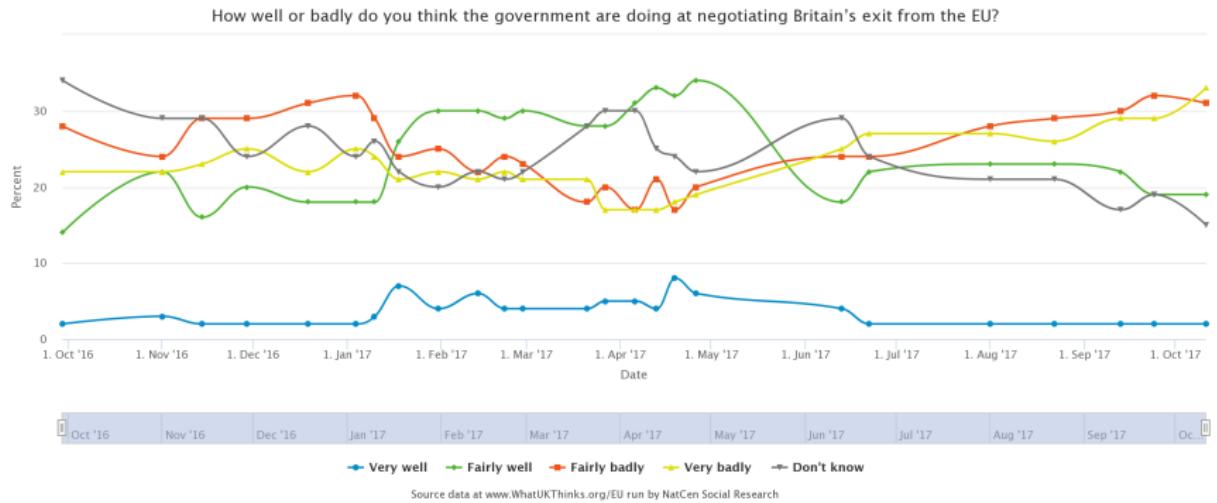


Source: NatCen Social Research (What UK Thinks)

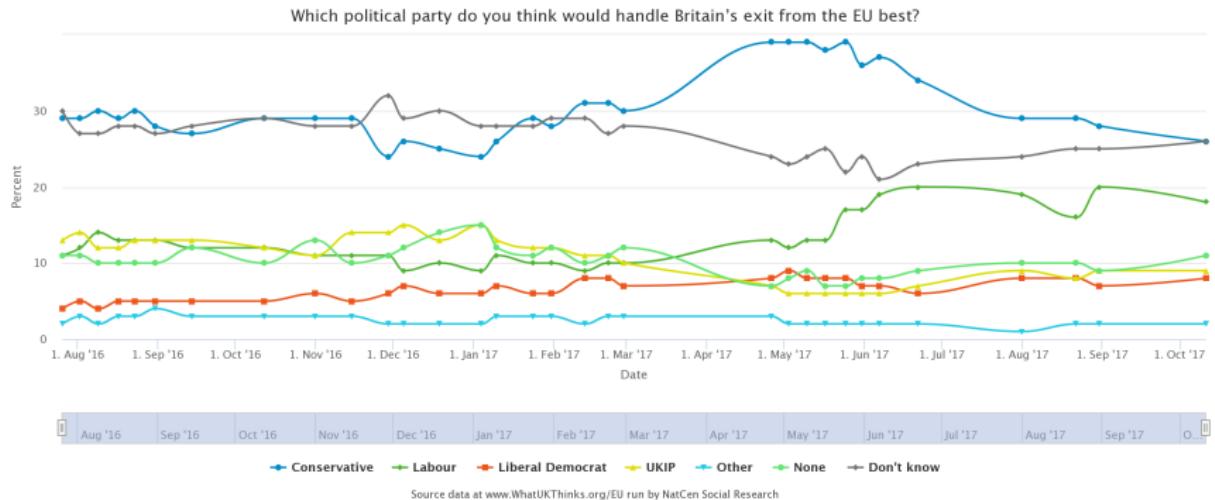


Source: NatCen Social Research (What UK Thinks)

Stability! Except...



Source: NatCen Social Research (What UK Thinks)

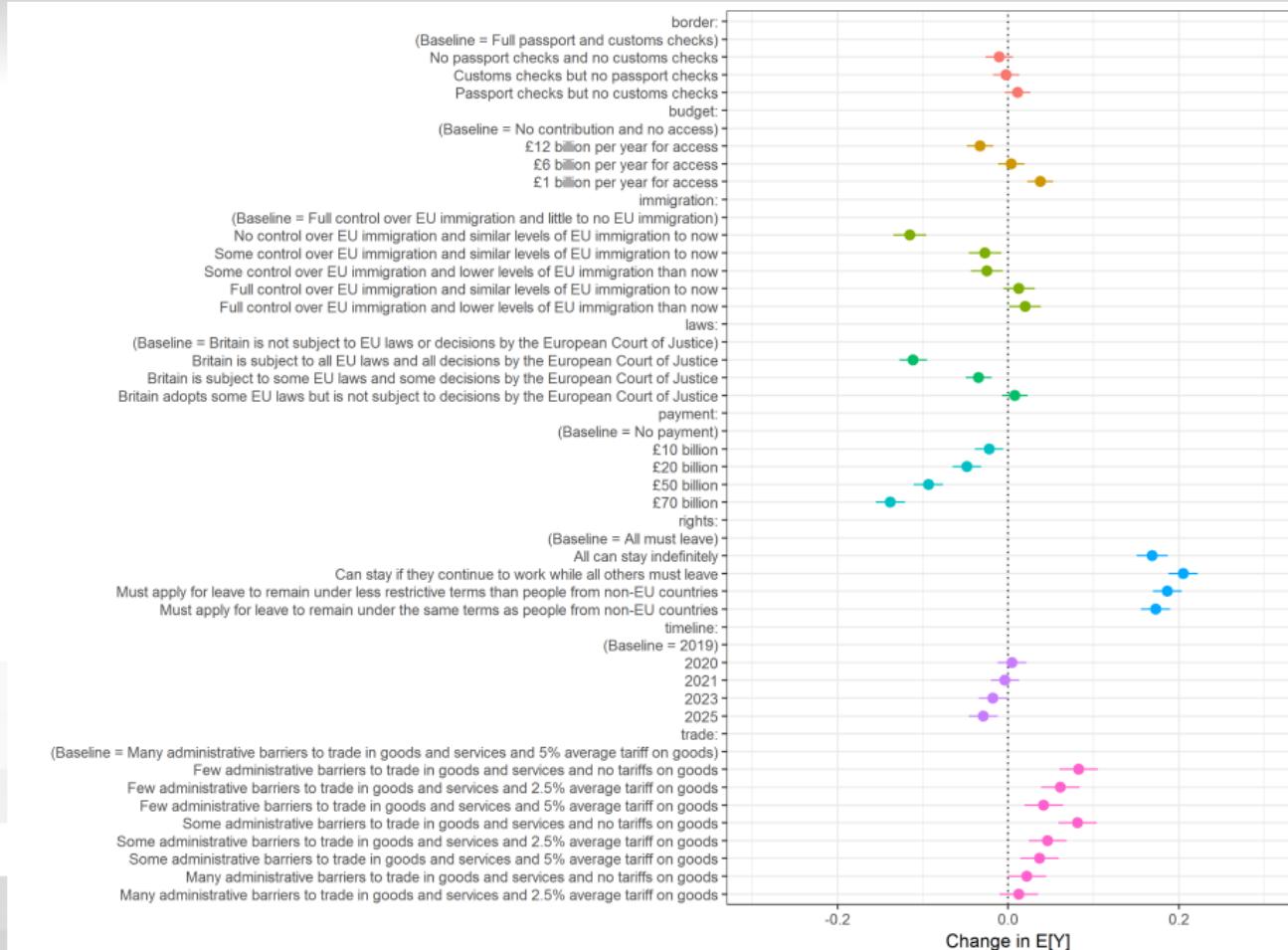


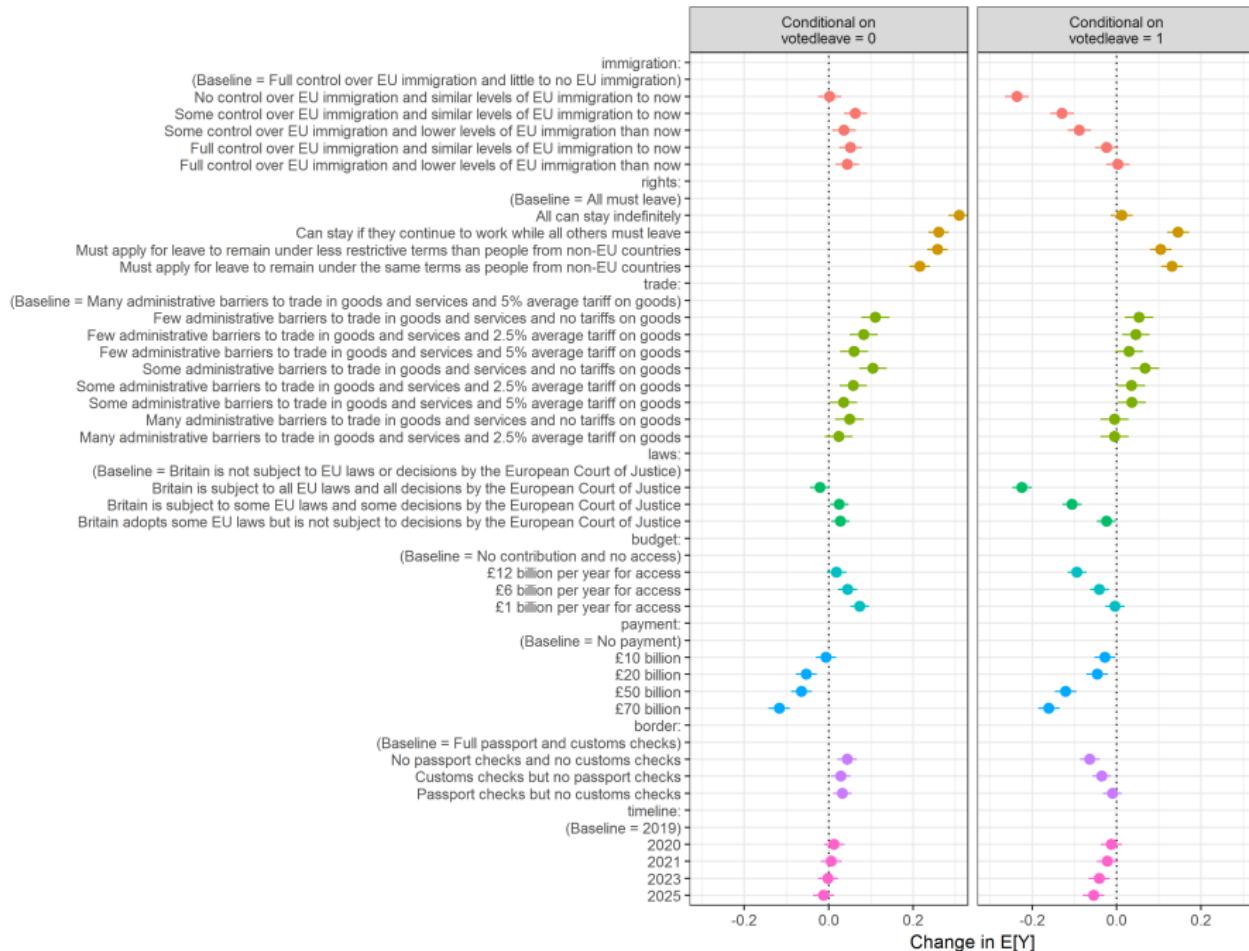
Source: NatCen Social Research (What UK Thinks)

## What do voters want?

# What do voters want?

- 1 Immigration/freedom of movement
- 2 Jurisdiction of the ECJ
- 3 Rights of EU (UK) citizens in UK (EU)
- 4 'Divorce bill'
- 5 Ongoing payments to EU budget
- 6 Trade agreement
- 7 Northern Ireland border
- 8 Timeline for implementation







- » HARD BORDER
- » CUSTOMS CHECK POINTS
- » TRAFFIC DELAYS
- » CLOSURE OF LOCAL BORDER ROADS
- » ECONOMIC DEVASTATION

## BORDER COMMUNITIES AGAINST BREXIT

RESPECT THE  
REMAIN VOTE

NO BORDER  
NO BARRIERS  
PROTEST

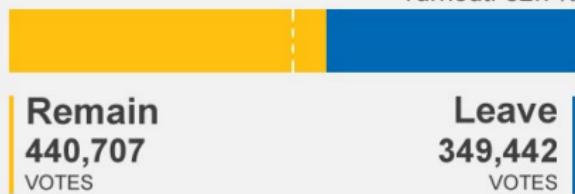
SATURDAY  
8TH OCTOBER  
3PM AT  
AGHALANE, CAVAN/  
ENNISKILLEN ROAD



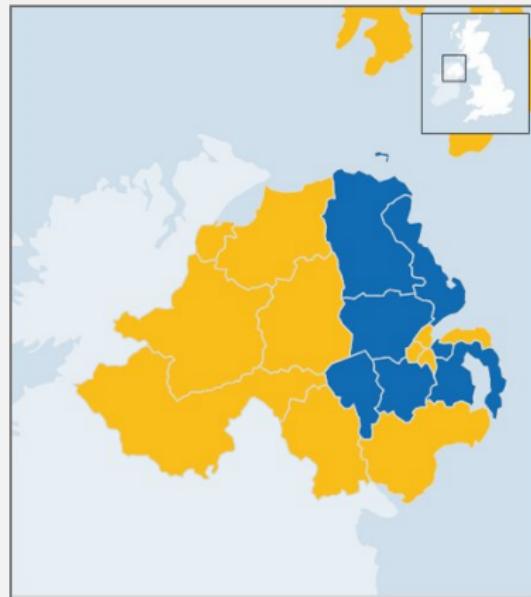
## Northern Ireland results

People in Northern Ireland voted in favour of the UK staying in the EU by 56% to 44%

Turnout: 62.7%

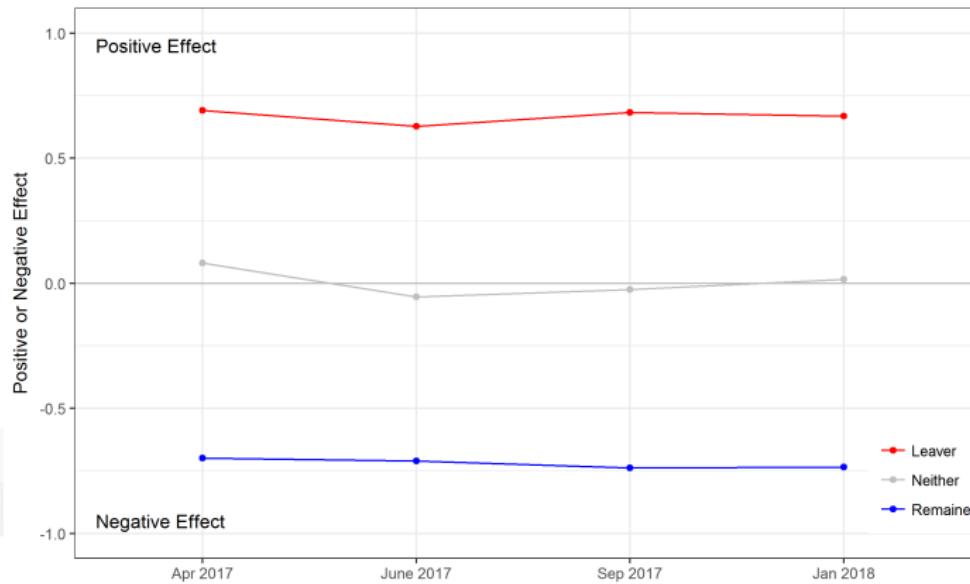


BBC NEWS





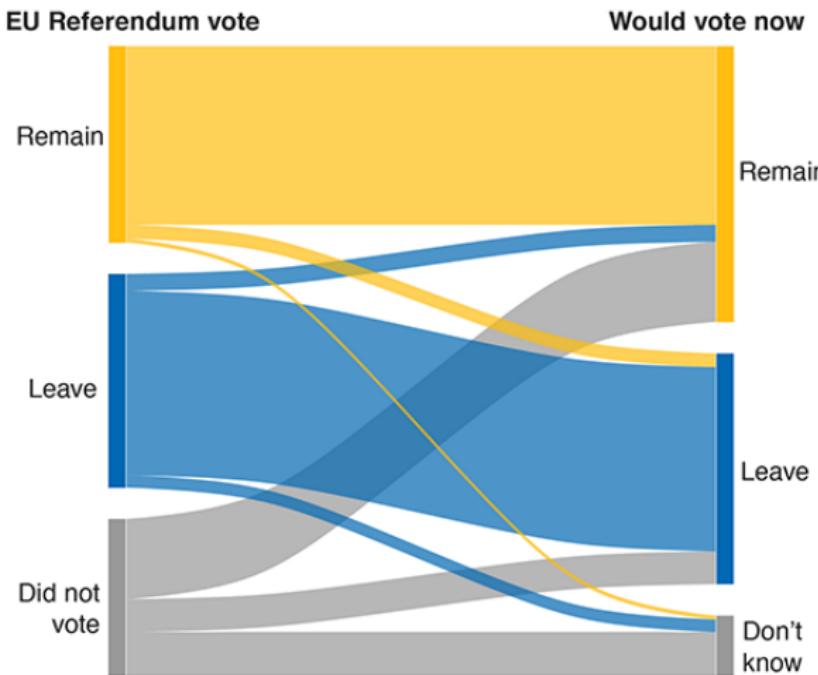
# *Do you think leaving the European Union will have a positive or negative effect **on Britain**?*





# Have voters changed their mind on Brexit?

Share of the UK voting public



Sources: ICM, Opinium, Survation, NatCen Social Research

BBC

LSE



# Conclusions

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- Remain voters were younger, more urban, more likely to have attended university
- Voters divided on what they want from Brexit and views of what impact it will have
- Britain is leaving the EU, but the type of Brexit remains unknown



*'Let's never ask the public  
for their views ever again'*

